

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
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-----060226 081408Z /45  
O 081332Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1876  
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 3263

EO 11652 NA  
TAGS: SHUM PEPR NI VE  
SUBJ: GOV STATEMENTS ON NICARAGUA SITUATION HEAT UP  
REFS: (A) CARACAS 3241 (B) CARACAS 3207

1. APRIL 7 PRESS CARRIED SPATE OF INTERVIEWS BY GOV  
OFFICIALS AND OTHER VENEZUELAN POLITICIANS ON THE CURRENT  
NICARAGUAN SITATUION (REF A. PRESIDENT PEREZ IN AN  
IMPROMPTU NEWS CONFERENCE REITERATED THAT "VENEZUELANS  
CAN REMAIN CONFIDENT THAT WE (GOV) WILL NOT ABANDON  
THE PROBLEM OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN NICARAGUA." NOTING THAT  
NICARAGUA HAD BEEN A TOPIC IN HIS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT  
CARTER AND THAT THE OAS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION HAS NOT  
YET VISITED NICARAGUA, PEREZ SAID THAT "IT IS POSSIBLE  
THAT WE WILL SOON ANNOUNCE OTHER ACTIONS." ACTIONS  
WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A "SUPRANATIONAL PLAN" WHICH  
RESPECT THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

2. IN ANOTHER INTERVIEW IN EL UNIVERSAL OF APRIL 7,  
FORMER PRESIDENT RAFAEL CALDERA (CIPEI-THE OPPOSITION PARTY)  
SAID THAT VENEZUELA DOES NOT USUALLY MEDDLE IN THE INTERNAL  
AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES BUT THAT VENEZUELA "CANNOT REFUSE ITS  
ITS MORAL IMPULSE AND DENY ITS HELP TO THOSE WHO HAVE THE SAME  
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RIGHT AS WE TO A FREE AND DEMOCRATIC LIFE." HE ALSO  
SAID THAT "I AM CONVINCED POLITICAL CHANGE IS INEVITABLE  
IN NICARAGUA, BUT ACHIEVEMENT IS BLOCKED BY THE ECONOMIC  
INTERESTS OF THE CURRENT POLITICAL RULERS OF THAT COUNTRY."

3. THE RESPECTED INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COLUMNIST OF  
EL UNIVERSAL, FEDERAL DEPUTY LUIS ESTEBAN REY, ALSO

DEALT AT LENGTH WITH NICARAGUA IN HIS COLUMN OF APRIL 7. NOTING THAT DURING HIS RECENT TRIP TO VENEZUELA, PRESIDENT CARTER REAFFIRMED THAT THE US AND VENEZUELAN POSITIONS ON NICARAGUA WERE IN AGREEMENT, REY GOES ON TO NOTE THAT SHORTLY AFTER CARTER'S DEPARTURE, A "SENIOR OFFICIAL" ABOARD THE PRESIDENTIAL PLANE TO BRASILIA, WHOSE REMARKS WERE REPORTED IN A UPI ARTICLE, ATTEMPTED TO "SOFTEN" PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENTS BY SAYING THE US WAS NOT DISPOSED TO ACTIONS WHICH WOULD RESULT IN THE FALL OF A LEADER OF A COUNTRY. ACCORDING TO REY, THIS REMARK AND ANOTHER ONE (TO THE EFFECT PEREZ HAD SUGGESTED USE OF OAS TO OVERTHROW SOMOZA) ENABLED SOMOZA TO ATTACK PEREZ AS INTERVENTIONIST, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME LETTING PRESIDENT CARTER OFF SCOT FREE. REY ALSO NOTES THAT THESE REMARKS GIVE PAUSE FOR CONCERN ABOUT THE "DOUBLE GAME" OF (US) HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY. THESE STATEMENTS COULD REFLECT THE OPPOSING FACTIONS BOTH WITHIN THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND THE WHITE HOUSE ON HUMAN RIGHTS. SUMMARIZING, REY STATES THESE STATEMENTS BY A "SENIOR OFFICIAL" NOT ONLY PROVIDED AMMUNITION TO SOMOZA FOR HIS ATTACK ON PEREZ (REF B), BUT WERE ALSO SENSELESS AND UNNECESSARY.

VAKY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, HUMAN RIGHTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780152-0638  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Subject:** GOV STATEMENTS ON NICARAGUA SITUATION HEAT UP  
**TAGS:** SHUM, PEPR, NI, VE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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